

022

RNR 534

PORTUGAL--INDEPENDENCE

ALGIERS, NOV. 24, REUTER -- AGREEMENT ON INDEPENDENCE FOR THE PORTUGUESE ISLANDS OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE IS EXPECTED TO BE REACHED HERE TOMORROW BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND THE ARCHIPELAGO'S LIBERATION MOVEMENT.

AFTER TWO ROUNDS OF TALKS TODAY, BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED THEIR OPTIMISM FOR AN AGREEMENT DURING THEIR NEXT MEETING TOMORROW.

NEGOTIATORS MET FOR THREE HOURS THIS MORNING AND TWO HOURS TONIGHT TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THE ISLANDS, 125 MILES OFF THE WEST AFRICAN COAST.

MR. MIGUEL TROUVADA, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE (MLSTP), AND LEADER OF THE MOVEMENT'S DELEGATION, SAID TONIGHT THAT THERE WERE DIFFERENCES BUT HE WAS OPTIMISTIC BOTH SIDES WOULD AGREE.

THE PORTUGUESE DELEGATION IS HEADED BY DR. ANTONIO DE ALMEIDA SANTOS, MINISTER FOR INTER-TERRITORIAL COORDINATION. LISBON HAS RECOGNIZED THE ISLANDS RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION.

REUTER 2010

EUR
AF